more recent to the west, and in the industrial area of the Great Glen the trend is reversing itself. To the north and south depopulation has been more serious. To the east the general trend has been similar to that of Skye. We need not be troubled by statistics at this time, but for convenience the population figures are given in Table 1. The Outer Hebrideans have preserved more of the social aspect of the old culture than the Skye people while the Mainlander has felt the effects of the processes of acculturation with more obvious results than the people of Skye. In short, the Highlands are not a homogeneous region. They represent a great diversity of conditions.

My information on the contemporary culture of the Isle of Skye was provided by the residents of three communities, the villagers of Portree and the crofters of Glendale and Kilmuir. Portree is a small nucleated village with a population of a thousand. It is important to the study because in many ways it represents an alien way of life. Here are found the county and national government offices, staffed mainly by newcomers to Skye, which serve the whole island. Here too, are the grocery, drug, clothing, and hardware stores which depend on the people of at least, northern Skye for a large part of their trade. There are a number of craftsmen who are equally dependent on the rural population. For the most part, the members of both groups are newcomers from the Lowlands or elsewhere in the Highlands. As the terminus for the mail steamer which links Skye with the mainland, and the hub of the daily bus service which connects the rural